

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /051 R

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TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MAPR, MOPS, KS, KN, US

SUBJECT: RADIO/TV COVERAGE OF KOREA AUG 24

1. FOLLOWING IS SUMMERY OF US RADIO-TV COVERAGE OF KOREA
AUG 23-24.

2. SMITH (ABC-TV EVE NEWS 8/23) SAID AX MURDERS MADE
PEACEFUL AMERICAN BLOOD BOIL FOR REVENGE, BUT DECISION
SHOW, RATHER THAN USE FORCE HAS SOMETHING RECOMMEND IT.
STATED VIETNAM WARNED US FIGHTING ALLIES' FIGHTS TOO
LONG, TIME THEY DID IT THEMSELVES. SAW DMZ INCIDENT
AS FIRST TEST NIXON'S COMMENDABLE GUAM DOCTRINE. WE
WILL HELP, BUT ALLIES MUST DO OWN FIGHTING, AND NO ONE
IN BETTER POSITION TO PROVE THAN SK, WHICH HAS FIFTH
BIGGEST ARMY IN WORLD, POPULATION DOUBLE NK, AND STRONG
INDUSTRIAL BASE. IF FORCEABLE RESPONSE NEEDED, STATED
SK'S JOB TO DO IT. NOTED AMERICANS SHOULD NOT BE IN
DMZ AT ALL, AFTER GUAM DOCTRINE. ALONG WITH STERN
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REPREMAND TO NK, THEREFORE, ADDED STERN MESSAGE BE

SENT SK ALLY -- IT'S YOUR COUNTRY, PRIMARILY UP TO YOU
TO PREVENT SUCH INCIDENTS.

3. MUDD (CBS-TV EVE NEWS 8/23) SAID ADMIN TRYING TAKE
SOME OF HEAT OUT OF CONFRONTATION WITH NK. NOTED DOS

TERMED NK MESSAGE "UNACCEPTABLE" YESTERDAY, CALLED
IT "POSITIVE STEP" TODAY.

4. FROM HK, SPUR (ABC RADIO NEWS 8/24) CITED W DIPLOMATS
IN PEKING SAYING PRC PERSUADED US MODIFY TOUGH STANCE
IN KOREA. ALSO SAYING US/PRC IN CLOSE CONTACT SINCE
INCIDENT, AND PRC ASKED US "COOL IT" AFTER SENT 7TH
FLEET TO CHINA SEA, OUT OF CONCERN US MIGHT OVERREACT,
ESCALATE CRISIS.

5. DUNNING, IN SEOUL, (CBS RADIO WORLD NEWS ROUNDUP)
STATED SKOREANS PLEASED WITH US HANDLING OF INCIDENT,
UNTIL CHANGE YESTERDAY, WHICH THEY NOW CALL "CAPITULATION
...SUDDEN SWITCH...UNEXPECTED REVERSAL." NOTED ROKG
MUM ON KIM IL SUNG EXPRESSION REGRET. SAID SEOUL
PRESS RAN STORIES THAT US LOST FACE TO NK; POLL FOUND
70 PCT DISAPPOINTED WITH NEW US POLICY. CITED SK NEWSMEN
WHO VOICED SUSPICION US PRESSURED BY PRC OR
USSR, AND NOW DEALING WITH NK OVER SK HEAD.

6. JACK ANDERSON (ABC-TV "GOOD MORNING AMERICA" 8/24)
SAID KIM IL SUNG APOLOGIZED FOR AX MURDERS. WASN'T
MUCH OF AN APOLOGY, AND US REJECTED, BUT WAS FIRST KIM
EVER MADE TO US. GAVE INSIDE STORY OF WHY KIM BACKED
DOWN -- HAK MET HUANG CHEN LAST WEEK TO ASK PRC USE
INFLUENCE TELL NK COOL CRISIS. PEKING PASSED WORD TO
KIM IL SUNG, WHO CAN'T MAKE MOVE WITHOUT CONSULTING
PRC, AND HE IMMEDIATELY SENT MESSAGE TO UNC, BACKING
DOWN. KISSINGER

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